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Subject: UKRAINIAN ARTISTS IN KIEV, SUMMER 1965

Source: Miss VYSNEVSKA Daria of 452 Gladestone Ave. Toronto Ont, Canada

Date: 15 Feb. 1966

corresponds with Ihor SARATOVSKY whom she met in Kiev

1. Source visited the Soviet Union in the summer of 1965 with Miss SEMENIUK Lesia of Toronto. They travelled by car through Ukraine, crossing into Soviet territory from Rumania. In Ukraine they visited Lviv, Ternopil, Odessa, Kiev, Uzhorod. The trip lasted app. 3 weeks.
2. Source is 22-23 years old, a first year student at the University of Toronto. She had previously attended teachers college in Toronto, and taught in a public school for 2 years. She was born in Sudbury Ont. Canada, her parents coming to Canada from Ukraine in the 1920's. Source went to Europe late in 1964 as a tourist, and in summer of 1965 decided to visit the USSR. She was joined in Europe by Miss Semeniuk before departing for Ukraine. Source has a family in the USSR in the Ternopil region.
3. In Kiev she met SARATOVSKY Ihor Oleksandrovich, add: Kiev-42, wul. "Druzba Narodiv" bud. 17a/kv.52. (photo of Saratovsky available) Saratovsky is an artist, married and has a daughter. The first meeting took place in the Pecherska Lavra, present were Source and Saratovsky and Semeniuk. There he gave Source a handwritten booklet: "Mohutnia i Chariyna" by M. SHUMYLO. According to Source, Saratovsky approached her and Semeniuk, asked them where they were from, presented himself, said that he was an artist and they arranged to meet again some other time. The second meeting took place in the apartment of Saratovsky, at this meeting was also present PEREVALSKY Vasyl Evdokymovich, add: Kiev-122, wul. Boychenka, bud. 11/kv. 61. Perevalsky himself is an artist and some of his works are included with those brought over by Source. In the apartment Saratovsky showed Source a pile of graphic prints, and told her to take to the West whichever ones she liked. Source took all the prints present. (app. 40) Afterwards

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they met a few more times with Saratovsky taking and showing her Kiev. In Kiev she also met a certain Volodymyr (Inu) who works with Saratovsky and Perevalsky in their studio. (Volodymyr's photo is available)

4. Politically Saratovsky is opposed to the present regime in Ukraine, his main complaint is against Russian chauvanism in Ukraine, and not Socialism as such. He confided in Source that he would like to see Ukraine in a position similair to that of Poland or Rumania. The blame for Russification he placed mainly on the Ukrainian people themselves, but also mentioned that Russians who had higher government positions in Ukraine try to downgrade the Ukrainian language to one of secondary importance. The fire in Kiev library was described by Saratovsky as an ~~act~~ act of vandalism, and the trial of Pohruzalsky as a farce staged by the KGB. Presently Source and Saratovsky maintain contact by letter.

5. When crossing the border Source met a young student who was working with the border control during the summer. (incident occured when Source was entering Ukraine from Rumania) He was from Ternopil and while Source was in Ternopil they met again, and he showed them the city.

6. In Lviv they were approached on the street by a young man whose name Source forgot. (only the initials W.B. on his belt are recognizable in photo taken of him) He volunteered to show them Lviv, taking them to see Franko's grave, St. George's church, and a park in Lviv once called "Striletska Ploshcha" When Source asked what historical event took place at this site, he would not say, but refered her to her family in Canada. There was no political conversation with this young man.

7. When Source was returning to Western Europe from Ukraine, she told border guard that the prints she was bringing over from Ukraine, were purchased by her in Kiev, the inspector believed her and she was let through without any trouble.

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